

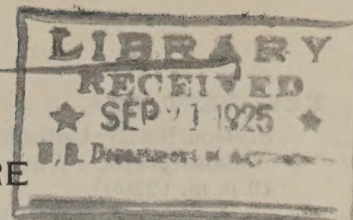
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# U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEATHER BUREAU



Forecast Division

Washington, August 1, 1925

## DISTRIBUTION OF WEATHER FORECASTS, INFORMATION, AND WARNINGS BY RADIO IN THE GULF OF MEXICO, CARIBBEAN SEA AND ADJACENT WATERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

Weather bulletins are broadcast daily from a number of naval and commercial radio stations for the benefit of navigation and other interests in the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, contiguous North Atlantic Ocean, and on adjacent coasts.

### EXPLANATION OF BULLETINS

The bulletins which are broadcast from each radio station are of the same general character and are similarly translated. They are based upon observations taken in the United States at 8 a. m. (0800) and 8 p. m. (2000), 75th meridian time, and one hour earlier at stations in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, of the date of distribution, as indicated.

The bulletins are divided into two parts. The first contains reports of barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity at certain stations, each of which is indicated by one or more "key letters", and using a group of five figures to represent the data contained in the report. The second part consists of wind and weather forecasts and warnings of storms and hurricanes. If a weather report from any station can not be supplied, the key letters and data figures will be omitted altogether, but in case only a portion of a report is missing, the letter "x" will be substituted for the omitted data figure.

These weather reports contained in the first part of the bulletins and supplemented by others picked up from vessels, can be used in the production of weather maps, which will be of much value to navigating officers, and charts prepared for this purpose, which show the reporting stations and their key letters, will be forwarded upon application.

*The broadcasts in all cases are in 75th meridian time.*

### KEY TO FIRST PART AND EXAMPLES

**Barometric pressure** (first three figures of group): Actual pressure in inches and hundredths used, except that first figure of full reading is omitted. Thus, if the actual corrected pressure is 29.98 inches, the figures 998 are sent; or, if the reading is 30.14 inches, the figures 014 are sent.

**Direction of surface wind** (fourth figure of group).

0=calm, or no movement.	5=south.
1=north.	6=southwest.
2=northeast.	7=west.
3=east.	8=northwest.
4=southeast.	

**Force of wind** (fifth figure of group): Sent according to Beaufort scale, values 0 to 9, inclusive.

### Beaufort scale

Scale No.	Explanatory titles	Miles per hour (statute)	Terms used in forecasts
0.....	Calm .....	Less than 1	
1.....	Light air .....	1 to 3	Light.
2.....	Slight breeze .....	4 to 7	
3.....	Gentle breeze .....	8 to 12	Gentle.
4.....	Moderate breeze .....	13 to 18	Moderate.
5.....	Fresh breeze .....	19 to 24	Fresh.
6.....	Strong breeze .....	25 to 31	Strong.
7.....	High wind .....	32 to 38	
8.....	Gale .....	39 to 46	Gales.
9.....	Strong gale .....	47 to 54	
*10 (W)	Whole gale .....	55 to 63	Whole gale.
*11 (S)	Storm .....	64 to 75	
*12 (H)	Hurricane .....	Over 75	Hurricane.

\*The numeral code does not admit of force in excess of 9 being sent. Therefore, the letters W, S, and H will be used for wind forces 10, 11, and 12, respectively.

NOTE.—The last column gives the terms applicable to the Beaufort scale which are used in the forecasts and warnings issued by the U. S. Weather Bureau.

Example of group as sent: 99852.

Translation: Barometric pressure, 29.98 inches, wind from south, wind force, 2 (4 to 7 statute miles per hour).

The second part of the bulletin consists of wind and weather forecasts and, whenever conditions warrant, information as to storm centers, storm and hurricane warnings and advices to shipping. Whenever a storm exists that is likely to affect a section, the location and expected direction of movement of the storm center will be given, followed by any storm or hurricane warnings and advices to shipping that have been issued.

## STATIONS BROADCASTING BULLETINS AND SCHEDULES

Following is a list of radio broadcasting stations, from which broadcasts are made in cooperation with the United States Weather Bureau, with a description of the bulletins in each case. *All broadcasts are made daily, Sundays and holidays included.*

### BROWNSVILLE, TEX.

Station NAY—United States Navy.

Radiotelegraph. Wave length 4,997 meters, (60 KC/s) CW.  
12 midnight (0000).

Observation stations contained in first part and code letters	Second part of bulletin
Key West, Fla..... K	Winds over east Gulf of Mexico (east of longitude 90°).
Tampa, Fla..... TA	Winds over west Gulf of Mexico (west of longitude 90°).
Pensacola, Fla..... P	Winds over Caribbean Sea (west of longitude 73°) and
Mobile, Ala..... MO	Windward Passage.
Burrwood, La..... BW	Storm warnings for Gulf of Mexico, Key West to Brownsville.
Galveston, Tex..... GV	Location and expected movement of storm centers affecting
Corpus Christi, Tex..... CC	Gulf of Mexico.
Brownsville, Tex..... BV	All hurricane warnings and advices.
Kingston, Jamaica..... KN	
Swan Island..... SI	



**KEY WEST, FLA.**

Station NAR—United States Navy.

*Radiotelegraph.* Wave length 5,657 meters (53 KC/s), CW; and 1,463 meters (205 KC/s), ACW., simultaneously. 10 p. m. (2200).

Observation stations contained in first part and code letters	Second part of bulletin
Hatteras, N. C. .... H	Winds off Atlantic coast, Hatteras to Key West.
Charleston, S. C. .... C	Winds over east Gulf of Mexico (east of longitude 90°).
Jacksonville, Fla. .... JA	Winds over west Gulf of Mexico (west of longitude 90°).
Miami, Fla. .... MI	Winds over Caribbean Sea (west of longitude 73°) and
Key West, Fla. .... K	Windward Passage.
Pensacola, Fla. .... P	Storm warnings Hatteras to Key West.
Burrwood, La. .... BW	Storm warnings Gulf of Mexico, Key West to Brownsville.
Galveston, Tex. .... GV	Location and expected movement of storm centers affecting
Brownsville, Tex. .... BV	Atlantic coast south of Hatteras and Gulf of Mexico.
Fort Worth, Tex. .... FW	All hurricane warnings and advices.
Kingston, Jamaica. .... KN	
Turks Island. .... TI	
Havana, Cuba. .... HA	
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. .... GO	
Swan Island. .... SI	
San Juan, P. R. .... SJ	

**PORT ARTHUR, TEX. (June 1 to November 30, inclusive.)**

Station WPA—The Gulf Refining Company.

*Radiotelegraph.* Wave length 925 meters (324 KC/s), spark. 11.45 a. m. (1145).

Observation stations contained in first part and code letters.	Second part of bulletin
Brownsville, Tex. .... BV	Winds over west Gulf of Mexico (west of longitude 90°).
Corpus Christi, Tex. .... CC	Storm warnings for Gulf of Mexico.
Galveston, Tex. .... GV	All hurricane warnings and advices when issued.
Port Arthur, Tex. .... PA	
New Orleans, La. .... NO	
Mobile, Ala. .... MO	
Key West, Fla. .... K	

**SAN JUAN, P. R. (July 1 to November 15, inclusive.)**

Station NAU—United States Navy.

*Radiotelegraph.* Wave length 4,836 meters (62 KC/s), CW, 9.00 p. m. (2100).

Observation stations contained in first part and code letters	Second part of bulletin
San Juan, P. R. .... SJ	All hurricane warnings.
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. .... ST	In the absence of a tropical storm the following words will be
Basseterre, St. Kitts. .... BT	sent each day "Weather Normal."
Roseau, Dominica. .... RS	
Bridgetown, Barbados. .... BB	
Santo Domingo, S. D. .... SD	
Puerto Plata, S. D. .... PL	
Castries, St. Lucia. .... LU	
Willemstadt, Curaçao. .... W	
Port of Spain, Trinidad. .... PS	
St. Martins, D. W. I. .... SM	

Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto are broadcast whenever issued, and repeated at 2-hour intervals until midnight.

NOTE.—This bulletin is rebroadcast by the Naval Radio station NAW at Guantanamo, Cuba, during the hurricane season, July 1 to November 15, inclusive, on a wave length of 1,395 meters (215 KC/s), CW, at 9 p. m. (2100).

**ALMIRANTE, PANAMA.**

Station UB—United Fruit Company.

*Radiotelegraph.*—Wave length 4,075 meters (73.5 KC/s), CW.

Schedule time: 12:30 p. m. (1230), and 11:45 p. m. (2345), 75th meridian time.

The 12:30 p. m. (1230) bulletin is in two parts. The first part is broadcast only during the hurricane season, June to November, inclusive, and consists of weather observations taken at the following places, which are indicated by key-letters:

Observation stations contained in first part and code letters	Second part of bulletin
Swan Island. .... SI	Winds over east Gulf of Mexico (east of longitude 90°).
Belize, Honduras. .... BZ	Winds over west Gulf of Mexico (west of longitude 90°).
Bluefields, Nicaragua. .... BFD	Winds over Caribbean Sea (west of longitude 73°) and Wind-
Willemstadt, Curaçao. .... W	ward Passage.
San Juan, P. R. .... SJ	Storm warnings for Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.
Port au Prince, Haiti. .... PP	All hurricane warnings and advices when issued.
Cienfuegos, Cuba. .... CFG	
Guane, Cuba. .... GUE	
Kingston, Jamaica. .... KN	
Turks Island, Bahamas. .... TI	



The second part of the bulletin consists of wind and weather forecasts for the western and eastern Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean Sea, and the Windward Passage. Whenever the conditions warrant, the forecasts are preceded by advices and warnings regarding any storm or hurricane that may be in progress, and of "northers" during the winter months. *The second part of the bulletin is broadcast daily throughout the year.*

The 11:45 p. m. (2345) bulletin is broadcast *daily throughout the year*, and consists *only* of forecasts, advices, and warnings of the same character and for the same areas as are contained in the second part of the 12:30 p. m. (1230) bulletin.

When a hurricane is in progress the Weather Bureau will issue advices regarding its location, direction, progress, and intensity at frequent intervals, and these advices will be repeated every two hours and on the even hour.

#### SWAN ISLAND, W. I.

Station US—United Fruit Company.

Radiotelegraph, spark, 2,240 meters (134 KC/s).

Information displays are made from the radio towers at Swan Island for the special benefit of ships in that region which are not equipped with wireless. The signals will consist of a large red pennant by day and a red lantern by night. These signals indicate that important weather information regarding a hurricane or a "norther" is in the possession of the radio operator, and can be obtained by boat calls ashore. However, ships equipped with wireless are permitted to call Swan Island (US) for the information. The United Fruit Company also permits ships that fail to obtain the regular weather broadcasts from Almirante to call the Swan Island station at any time for the latest weather forecasts.

NOTE.—The daily bulletins are radioed to Almirante and Swan Island from the Tropical Radio Telegraph station (WNU) at New Orleans, La., on 3,331 meters (90 KC/s), CW, at 11:30 a. m. (1130) and 11:30 p. m. (2330), 75th meridian time, and any ship or station is at liberty to pick up these messages and repeat them to other ships, should it desire to do so.

### LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF FORECASTS, STORM AND HURRICANE WARNINGS, AND WEATHER INFORMATION BY RADIO

Localized services, consisting of broadcasts of wind and weather forecasts, storm and hurricane warnings and advices relating thereto, which are supplemental to the bulletins as described above, are provided as follows:

*All broadcasts are made daily, Sundays and holidays included, except as otherwise noted.*

Radio stations				Weather information broadcast	Broadcasting time	Weather Bureau stations issuing information
Location	Call letters	Transmitting wave (meters)	Kilo-cycles (KC/s)			
Charleston, S. C.	NAO	2,607 CW	115	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for South Carolina coast; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for middle, south Atlantic, and east Gulf coasts; and 8 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Charleston. (b) Storm warnings and advices issued in afternoon . . . . . (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) 10:30 a. m. (1030)  (b) 6:00 p. m. (1800) (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals for 24 hours.	Charleston, S. C.
Savannah, Ga. . . .	NEV	1,428 Spark	210	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm and hurricane warnings for Georgia coast; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for middle and south Atlantic and east Gulf coasts; and 8:00 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Savannah. (b) Storm warnings and advices issued in afternoon . . . . . (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) 11:00 a. m. (1100)  (b) 6:00 p. m. (1800) (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals until midnight (0000).	Savannah, Ga.
St. Augustine, Fla.	NAP	2,342 Spark	128	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for east Florida coast, Jacksonville to Miami; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for middle and south Atlantic and east Gulf coasts; and 8:00 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Jacksonville and Titusville. (b) Storm warnings and advices when issued in afternoon. (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) 11:30 a. m. (1130)  (b) When issued. (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals until 6:00 p. m. (1800).	Jacksonville, Fla.
Jupiter, Fla. . . . .	NAQ	1,304 Spark	230	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for east coast of Florida, Miami to Key West; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for the middle and south Atlantic and east Gulf coasts; and 8:00 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Miami. (b) Storm warnings and advices issued in afternoon . . . . . (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) 11:30 a. m. (1130)  (b) 6:00 p. m. (1800) (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals until midnight (0000)	Jacksonville, Fla.
Key West, Fla. . .	NAR	1,463 ACW	205	Wind and weather forecasts and storm and hurricane warnings for the Florida, south Atlantic, and east Gulf of Mexico coasts.	12 noon (1200)	Key West, Fla.



# LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF FORECASTS, STORM AND HURRICANE WARNINGS, AND WEATHER INFORMATION BY RADIO—Continued

Radio stations				Weather information broadcast	Broadcasting time	Weather Bureau stations issuing information
Location	Call letters	Transmitting wave (meters)	Kilo-cycles (K/Cs)			
Pensacola, Fla....	NAS	1,333 Tube	225	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi coasts, Apalachicola to Bay St. Louis; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for south Atlantic and Gulf coasts; and 8 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Pensacola. (b) Storm warnings and advices issued in afternoon ..... (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) 11.45 a. m. (1145) (Except Sundays)  (b) 6 p. m. (1800) (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals until midnight. (0000).	Pensacola, Fla.
New Orleans, La...	NAT	2,607 Spark	115	(a) State forecasts (States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and eastern and western Texas) and river forecasts for the Ouachita, lower Red and Mississippi Rivers. (b) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for Louisiana and Texas coasts; advisory messages relating to storm and hurricane warnings issued for south Atlantic and Gulf coasts; and 8 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Burrwood and Port Arthur. (c) Storm and hurricane warnings and advices issued in afternoon.	(a) 10.00 a. m. (1000)  (b) 11 a. m. (1100)  (c) 5 p. m. (1700)	New Orleans, La.
New Orleans, La .	WNU	3,331 CW	90	(a) Summary of weather conditions and barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Burrwood, Port Arthur, and Galveston, at 8 p. m.; wind and weather forecasts for Louisiana and Texas coasts. (b) Storm and hurricane warnings for Louisiana and Texas coasts, and advisories relating to warnings issued for south Atlantic and Gulf coasts.	(a) 10 p. m. (2200)  (b) 10 p. m. (2200)	New Orleans, La.
Galveston, Tex....	WGV	830 ICW	361	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for Texas coast, Port Arthur to Corpus Christi; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for the west Gulf coast; and 8 a. m. barometric pressure, wind direction and velocity, and state of weather at Galveston. (b) Storm warnings and advices issued in afternoon ..... (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) 11.30 a. m. (1130) (Except Sundays and holidays.)  (b) 6 p. m. (1800) (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals until mid-night (0000).	Galveston, Tex.
Brownsville, Tex..	NAY	2,255 Spark	133	(a) Wind and weather forecasts and storm warnings for Texas coast, Corpus Christi to Brownsville; advisory messages relating to storm warnings issued for the west Gulf coast. (b) Storm warnings and advices issued in afternoon ..... (c) Hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto.	(a) Noon. (1200).  (b) 7 p. m. (1900) (c) When issued and repeated at 2-hour intervals until mid-night (0000).	Brownsville, Tex.
Guantanamo, Cuba	NAW	1,395 Spark	215	All hurricane warnings and advisory messages relating thereto whenever issued. (Repeats San Juan bulletin. See note under that station, page 2.)	When issued and repeated at about 4-hour intervals.	Washington, D. C.
Port au Prince, Haiti	NSC	2,255 Spark	133	..... do.....	.....do.....	Do.
St. Thomas, V. I..	NBB	1,685 Spark	178	..... do.....	.....do.....	Do. (and San Juan)
St. Croix, V. I....	NNI	450 Spark	666	..... do.....	.....do.....	Do.
Santo Domingo, D. R.	HIA	600 Spark	500	..... do.....	.....do.....	Do.
Ensenada, P. R ..	WPR	600 Spark	500	..... do.....	.....do.....	Do.

NOTE.—Previous Weather Bureau circular dated August 1, 1924, is hereby superseded. For radio distribution on Pacific coast, see Circular No. 10—Radio, 2d Edition, dated May 15, 1925. For radio distribution on Atlantic coast and description of Arlington weather bulletin, see Circular No. 13—Radio, dated July 15, 1925.

*C. H. Marvin.*

Chief of Bureau.